DECEMBER. 1780. THE NUMB. 2634.

PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE,

AND

WEEKLY ADVERTISER.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1780.

For the PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

" *Do thou, great Liberty! inſpire our ſouls,*
" *And make our lives in thy poſſeſſion happy;*
" *Or our deaths glorious in thy juſt defence.*"

ADDISON's CATO."

IF we allow ourſelves to reflect, we ſhall find the preſent moment a very critical one. On our virtue and exertions, at this time, depends our ſucceſs in the juſt and great conteſt in which we are engaged; and, conſequently, the happineſs of ourſelves and our poſterity. Hitherto we have been favoured, in a peculiar manner, by Providence; and the progreſs we have made, in founding a great and independent empire, on the baſis of religious and civil liberty, to be an aſylum for the virtuous and oppreſſed, has far exceeded the expectation of the moſt ſanguine amongſt us. We have ſurmounted difficulties that were thought inſuperable; we have encountered dangers that would have deterred a people embarked in a leſs righteous cauſe: By our determined firmneſs and perſeverance, in the purſuit of our object, we have drawn upon us the eyes, and excited the admiration of the whole world; and have already acquired no inconſiderable portion of that glory and fame, which, in the annals of mankind, will be annexed to the character of a people, who have nobly dared to attempt ſo arduous a taſk, and who, in ſpite of every obſtacle, ſhall accompliſh it. Thoſe circumſtances that militated ſtrongly againſt us at the commencement of the war, and from which we had the moſt to fear, gradually vaniſhed, and now no longer exiſt: We have regular organized governments, a well diſciplined army, with a great and illuſtrious General at their head, and a brave, hardy yeomanry, from which it may at all times be recruited; a powerful and magnanimous Prince, whoſe intereſts are intimately blended with our own, is our ally; and we inhabit a plentiful country, abounding with every neceſſary of life; a country fruitful in reſources, and capable of furniſhing ſupplies of proviſion for a very numerous army. The greateſt part of the difficulties we have experienced in ſupporting the army have not ariſen from a failure of our reſources, but from the proper meaſures for calling them forth not being adopted: In our preſent ſituation, an attention to the army ought to be our principal concern. We ſhould ſee that our ſeveral quotas of men be compleated, and that they be well cloathed, well ſupplied, and generouſly rewarded: The neceſſary means ſhould be uſed for retaining in the army, during the war, the troops belonging to this State that were inliſted for ſeven months, and whoſe time of ſervice will expire in January next. To enable us to accompliſh theſe great and important ends, funds ſhould immediately be provided for the redemption of the new Continental money; and this ſhould, without delay, be exchanged for that now in circulation, at one for forty, which would have a direct tendency to appreciate the old Continental money, while in circulation, to that ſtandard, and place the new on a par with ſpecie. The Land-Office ſhould be inſtantly opened in this State, for the purpoſes mentioned in the Preamble to the Bill for eſtabliſhing a Land-Office, &c. publiſhed for conſideration by the late Aſſembly; namely, That "it is neceſſary that ſpeedy and "effectual ſteps be taken for aſcertaining the terms on "which the unlocated lands, within the limits of this "State, may be ſettled, and a property therein, or in "any part thereof, may be acquired by individuals; "and that full and ample juſtice may be done to the officers and ſoldiers of the army belonging to this State, "to whom the public faith is pledged, for conveying certain portions thereof at the end of the war; and that "the remainder may be diſtributed to ſuch ſober and induſtrious perſons as are willing to plant the ſame; and "from a deſire of encouraging the ſettlement of the State, "and creating a fund for the purpoſes of government "and carrying on the war, and in eaſe of the taxes which "muſt be collected and raiſed for this purpoſe on the inhabitants." The diſtricts and tracts of land, appropriated to the troops in the fœderal army belonging to this State, ſhould be ſet apart and reſerved for them, as ſoon as poſſible; and the remainder of the vacant and unappropriated lands diſpoſed of to ſuch perſons as might be deſirous of purchaſing the ſame. The money iſſued by the authority of this State ſhould be receivable in payment for ſuch lands, at the ſame rate as ſpecie, which would reſtore it to full credit. The advantages that would attend the ſpeedy opening of the Land-Office are numerous: By that means our frontiers would be ſtrengthened; emigrations from the State be prevented; the lands reſerved for the ſoldiery improved in value; the army ſatisfied and pleaſed; the ſoldiers raiſed by the State, for a ſhort period of time, induced to continue in the ſervice during the war, and enliſtments of others more readily obtained; agriculture be promoted; an additional credit given to our State money; and a revenue obtained. When the diſtricts reſerved for the officers and ſoldiers of the Pennſylvania line are to be ſurveyed and ſet apart, Commiſſioners, nominated by the line, might attend on their behalf.

Another matter that has been ſuggeſted to me, as a meaſure that would have a very beneficial tendency, with reſpect to the army in particular and the public at large, is the taking off the embargo on proviſions; provided that, on exporting any given quantity, the exporter ſhall deliver, into a magazine appointed for the reception thereof, a certain proportionate quantity for the uſe of the army; to be paid for the ſame by the public, at the market price. The very plentiful harveſt we have had this year leaves us no reaſon to apprehend that a ſcarcity will be occaſioned by opening our ports; and the exuberant appearance of the country, and the fineneſs of the ſeaſon at preſent, afford a moſt pleaſing proſpect of a great abundance of grain for the enſuing campaign. By taking off the embargo, the exportation of ſpecie will be, in a great degree, prevented; which, if continued much longer, muſt be productive of very miſchievous conſequences. If we need any additional motives, as an inducement to open our ports for the exportation of proviſions, the circumſtance of the Delaware State having adopted the meaſure, thereby counteracting the deſign of the embargo almoſt as effectually as if this State had concurred with them, ſeems to be a very ample one. And here I cannot avoid lamenting the want of a ſufficient power in Congreſs to direct and enforce the execution of ſuch plans, as ſhall appear to them neceſſary to be carried into effect by all or any number of the States, conjunctly: Mere *recommendations* of Congreſs may be diſregarded, as has been the caſe with reſpect to the embargo in the Delaware State, by which means any one State may, in order to anſwer its own particular purpoſes, deſtroy the good effect of ſchemes calculated for the advantage of the whole.

The intention of publiſhing laws for conſideration is with a view that every citizen may have an opportunity of ſuggeſting ſuch improvements as he ſhall think may be made: And when a private perſon holds up his opinion to the public with modeſty and candour, he may poſſibly render eſſential ſervice to his country, and he can ſcarcely injure it. Impreſſed with this ſentiment, I ſubmit the foregoing to their tribunal. HORATIUS.

November 28, 1780.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

JOSEPH REED, Eſquire,

PRESIDENT, *and the* SUPREME EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, *of the Commonwealth of* Pennſylvania.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the honourable the Congreſs of the United States of America, by their reſolve of the eighteenth day of October laſt, did recommend in the following words, to wit.

" WHEREAS it hath pleaſed Almighty God, the " Father of all mercies, amidſt the viciſſitudes and cala" mities of war, to beſtow bleſſings on the people of " theſe ſtates, which call for their devout and thankful " acknowledgments, more eſpecially in the late remark" able interpoſition of his watchful providence, in reſcu" ing the perſon of our commander in chief and the " army from imminent dangers, at the moment when " treaſon was ripened for execution; in proſpering the " labours of the huſbandman, and cauſing the earth to " yield its increaſe in plentiful harveſts; and above all, " in continuing to us the enjoyment of the goſpel of " peace:

" It is therefore recommended to the ſeveral ſtates to " ſet apart Thurſday, the ſeventh day of December next, " to be obſerved as a day of public THANKSGIVING " AND PRAYER; that all the people may aſſemble on " that day to celebrate the praiſes of our Divine Benefac" tor; to confeſs our unworthineſs of the leaſt of his fa" vours, and to offer our fervent ſupplications to the God " of all grace, that it may pleaſe him to pardon our " heinous tranſgreſſions and incline our hearts for the " future to keep all his laws; to comfort and relieve our " brethren who are anywiſe afflicted or diſtreſſed; to ſmile " upon our huſbandry and trade; to direct our public " councils and lead our forces by land and ſea to victory; " to take our illuſtrious ally under his ſpecial protection, " and favour our joint councils and exertions for the " eſtabliſhment of ſpeedy and permanent peace; to cheriſh " all ſchools and ſeminaries of education, and to cauſe " the knowledge of Chriſtianity to ſpread over all the " earth."

WHEREFORE, as well in reſpect of the ſaid recommendation of Congreſs, as the plain dictates of duty, to acknowledge the favour and goodneſs of Providence, and implore its further protection; WE do hereby earneſtly recommend to the good people of Pennſylvania, to ſet apart THURSDAY, the ſeventh day of December next, for the pious purpoſes expreſſed in the ſaid reſolve, and that they abſtain from all labour on that day.

GIVEN, by Order of the Council, under the Hand of his Excellency JOSEPH REED, *Eſquire, Preſident, and the Seal of the State, at Philadelphia, this Tenth Day of November, in the Year of our Lord One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Eighty.*

JOSEPH REED, Preſident.

Atteſt. T. MATLACK, Secretary.

GOD SAVE THE COMMONWEALTH.

TO BE SOLD,

For PENNSYLVANIA STATE MONEY,

FIVE HUNDRED and TWENTY-FIVE Acres of Deeded LAND, in Turbit townſhip, in the county of Northumberland.

One Hundred and Twenty-three acres of Land on Powels Creek, in Paxton townſhip, in the county of Lancaſter.

One Thouſand and Fifty-five acres of Land on the Shawney Cabin Creek, in the county of Bedford; One Moiety thereof.

A few Shares of the Indiana Lands on the Ohio River.

For Terms of Sale, apply to the ſubſcriber, living in Lancaſter.

* 4 w. LEVY ANDREW LEVY.

United States Lottery-Office.

Philadelphia, November 29, 1780.

THE Managers hereby give notice to all perſons, who have purchaſed tickets in the third claſs in this City, that they are now ready to renew the ſame in the fourth claſs.—All tickets not renewed in ſix weeks from this date, will be the property of the United States.

For SALE,

A genteel three Story BRICK HOUSE,

In ARCH STREET,

The third door from the corner of Fifth-ſtreet.

For particulars, apply to

§ BENJAMIN DAVIS, junior.

STATE of PENNSYLVANIA.

In GENERAL ASSEMBLY, *Nov.* 21, 1780.

THE report made yeſterday on the Petition of GILES HICKS, Captain Lieutenant in the 10th Pennſylvania regiment, praying to be divorced from his Wife HESTER, by reaſon of her infidelity and infamous conduct, &c. was read the ſecond time, and being conſidered, it was

Reſolved, That the ſaid Giles Hicks be permitted to bring in a bill to divorce him from his ſaid wife Heſter, agreeable to the prayer of his petition, he, the ſaid Giles Hicks, giving previous notice of his deſign and this permiſſion, at leaſt three weeks, in the public news-paper printed in the city of Philadelphia, intituled, *The Pennſylvania Gazette, and Weekly Advertiſer.*

Extract from the Minutes,

SAMUEL STERETT, *Clerk.*

In conſequence of the above reſolve, I do hereby give public notice, that I have petitioned the Honourable Houſe of Aſſembly, for a Divorce from Heſter Hicks, alias M'Daniel; for which purpoſe a bill is depending before the Houſe, of which ſaid Heſter Hicks, alias M'Daniel, may take notice, in order to make her objections, if any ſhe hath, why ſaid bill ſhould not be paſſed into a law.

GILES HICKS, Captain Lieutenant,
10th Pennſylvania Regiment.

WHEREAS Doctor John Hunt, of New Jerſey, ſon of John Hunt, deceaſed, late Agent of the Weſt-Jerſey Society, and purchaſer of a propriety or 24th part of Eaſt-Jerſey, hath, for ſome time paſt, undertaken to diſpoſe of the intereſts intruſted to the care of his late father, as his own property, without the leaſt colour of title; and hath alſo entered into ſundry contracts, as heir at law to his father, reſpecting the ſaid propriety;---by which means unwary perſons may be drawn into expences and trouble, for which they can have no conſideration or future recompence in law or equity from ſaid lands. And as I am one of the Weſt Jerſey Society, and have alſo purchaſed of the ſaid John Hunt, deceaſed, in the year 1766, one-ſixth part of the ſaid propriety, I have thought proper to give this public caution, and to aſſure the intended purchaſers, or tenants under Doctor Hunt, that his father was a mere Agent or Attorney to the Weſt Jerſey Society, and his powers are extinguiſhed by his death:---That the ſaid John Hunt, who died at Winchester, in Virginia, in the year 1778, made a will, which, by the laws of New-Jerſey, will paſs the eſtate to the deviſees therein named, for the payment of his debts and legacies, totally excluding his ſon, Doctor Hunt; and of courſe, that he cannot legally rent or convey any part of the premiſes above deſcribed. And whereas, being the only perſon in America intereſted in the eſtate of the Weſt-Jerſey Society, I lately gave a Power of Attorney to Joſeph Ball, of Batſto Iron Works, to take care of the timber lands belonging to ſaid Society, and it now appearing to me that the ſaid Ball has been concerned with ſundry perſons, who are in cuſtody in this city, in ſhipping lumber to New-York, which I have had reaſon to believe has been taken from the timber lands of the ſaid Society, contrary to the truſt I repoſed in him, I do revoke the ſaid Power, and forbid all perſons poſſeſſing or cutting timber off any of ſaid lands under the ſaid Doctor John Hunt, ſaid Ball, or any other perſon; and do give this notice to all treſpaſſers on the lands of the ſaid Society, that I ſhall proſecute them with the utmoſt ſeverity of the law. The Collectors of taxes in New-Jerſey will be pleaſed to inform me, by letter from time to time, what the taxes are, due from ſaid lands, and they ſhall be paid, ſo as to ſave the property from being plundered and deſtroyed for very trifling ſums.

JOSEPH REED.

THE ſubſcriber returns his grateful Thanks to his Friends and the Public in general, for their paſt favours, and hopes, by his attention to buſineſs, for a continuance of their cuſtom, at that commodious and long accuſtomed TAVERN, known by the name of the WHITE-HORSE, in Elbow-Lane, which he has fitted up in the moſt commodious manner, for the entertainment of both town and country Gentlemen. DENNIS M'CARTHY.

N. B. Some time in the months of February or March was left at my houſe, a parcel of DEER SKINS. The owner or owners are requeſted to prove their property, pay charges, and take them away.

Philad. Nov. 21. ‡ DENNIS M'CARTHY.

WRAPPING PAPER,
To be SOLD, by
HALL & SELLERS,

For the PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

HEINICCIUS gives an excellent account of the great care taken by the ancient Romans, in framing and promulgating their laws.* This promulgation, as he explains it, was the propoſing of them, after they had been debated in the Senate, to the people, that they might read and weigh them, in order to determine whether they ſhall paſs into laws. This Roman practice has been happily revived by the Conſtitution of this State, and, among other good effects, it renders ignorance of the law much more inexcuſable. In England, all the promulgation of their acts of parliament conſiſts in the paſſing of a bill through the Houſe of Lords and the Houſe of Commons, where every ſubject is conſidered as preſent, either perſonally or by repreſentative.

Taking advantage of this publication of bills depending before the Aſſembly, and exerciſing the privilege of examining the proceedings of the Legiſlature, ſecured to every citizen of the State by the conſtitution, the writer of theſe paragraphs propoſes to make ſome remarks on a bill lately publiſhed, intituled, "An Act to ſettle and adjuſt the accounts of the troops of the State, in the ſervice of the United States, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned."

The ſcheme and proviſions of this bill will be firſt examined, afterwards the expreſſion of it.

The deſign of the Legiſlature is, to make good to the officers and privates, ſeverally, the loſſes they have ſuffered in their pay by the depreciation of our paper money. For this purpoſe the firſt enacting clauſe appoints auditors, who are to proceed to camp, and there to eſtimate the ſame, and give to each individual a certificate, ſetting forth in ſpecie the arrears he was intitled to on the firſt day of Auguſt laſt. But wherefore appoint new and extraordinary auditors, at a great and certain expence? Why may not the preſent auditors of public accounts be charged with this buſineſs alſo? Is this the œconomy which ſome perſons talk ſo much of? Perhaps it will be ſaid, that theſe accounts can only be adjuſted at camp. This, however, may be queſtioned; for unleſs it be neceſſary for the auditors to ſee each officer and ſoldier, the ſervice may be better done in Philadelphia where the muſter-rolls and pay-rolls of the army are lodged. If it be neceſſary that theſe military auditors proceed to the main army, muſt they not alſo viſit the Pennſylvania troops at Pittsburgh and other poſts? Suppoſe, however, a trip to camp would promote the buſineſs, why may not the preſent auditors be ſent thither? The public is ſick of the multiplying of officers and expences without cauſe.

In the progreſs of the bill, the confiſcated eſtates, yet remaining unſold or unappropriated, are declared and conſidered, as a ſufficient fund to ſatisfy theſe deficiences in the pay of the Pennſylvania line. If the forfeited real eſtates under the care of the Agents were ſo much clear property, they would fall far ſhort of the ſums, which on the plan of this bill would be due to the Pennſylvania troops. But embarraſſed, as ſome may be, with diſputes about the titles, and dipped or wholly merged in debt as are others, they would prove ſo very unequal, that if this bill paſs in its preſent ſhape, the Aſſembly will be chargeable, hereafter, with amuſing and deceiving the ſoldiery. Nor will it ſave the character of the members, to alledge that they were miſtaken, unleſs it appear, that proper meaſures had been uſed to gain information. The Houſe ſhould alſo know, that few of the creditors of the attainted, who have obtained decrees for their demands in the Supreme Court, have yet called on the Treaſurer for payment. They wait for ſome relief from the Legiſlature, as to the depreciation. Such debts, in the State of Delaware, if of long ſtanding, have been diſcharged after the rate of 60 for one; and here, ſomething like this is expected. So that, a few months hence, a large and urgent demand on the part of theſe creditors ſhould be provided for; a demand, which the forfeitures now left will not ſatisfy. It cannot be meaned, that eſtates, which may hereafter be forfeited, ſhall be conſidered as part of this propoſed fund, as it would be againſt the policy of the law, to make grants of this nature before conviction. Such a conſtruction would intereſt the grantees to promote attainders and confiſcations; which is odious, even in idea. It will be quite enough to prevent, as the bill doth, the full exerciſe of pardon, and its effects, in reſtoring the eſtates of the preſent attainted perſons, without going farther and obſtructing the public mercy towards future offenders. For a forfeiture, once given to the army, would be placed out of the reach of either the executive or legiſlative power.

The bill veſts the forfeited eſtates in commiſſioners, and directs a valuation by appraiſers, appointed on the part of the ſtate, and on the part of the army, according to the prices they would have ſold for, in ſpecie, in 1774. After this, the commiſſioners are to ſell them to the perſon who firſt offers the price ſet, but the certificates of the officers and ſoldiers are to be the only tender or conſideration. -- This mode of valuing lands and houſes will, perhaps, bring imputations on the commiſſioners and valuators, as they are ſtiled; but they will hardly eſcape cenſure, if any of their connexions or friends ſhall be the purchaſers. How will the creditors of eſtates, greatly involved, be ſatisfied with this appraiſement, according to the value in 1774, apparently ordered to appreciate the pay of the army at their expence?

Is the notion well founded, that ſuch a valuation of forfeited real eſtates would be for the benefit of the army, rather than the ſale by auction hitherto uſed? The price of houſes and lands has certainly riſen ſince the year 1774; but have the forfeited eſtates ſold for the prices which their poſſeſſors might then have gotten for them? Generally they have not; tho' in ſome inſtances, owing to competition and miſtake of the buyers, they may; and there are good reaſons to be given for this under-ſale. The ſuppoſed chance of the conteſt with Britain; the diſlike which many have to bid for them, and other cauſes, are too obvious to be dwelled upon. It muſt be admitted, by thoſe who take time to reflect on this ſubject, that a ſale at auction would be at leaſt as beneficial to the Pennſylvania line as this propoſed in the bill. It would alſo give the creditors, bidders and purchaſers fair play, and greater ſatisfaction. Strike out this part, and there will be no neceſſity to be at the expence of commiſſioners or appraiſers for this purpoſe. The lands may be ſold by Council, payable in the ſoldiers certificates, and deeds given in the uſual manner. The bill, in appointing theſe commiſſioners, breaks thro' the former regulations concerning forfeited eſtates, without providing for the conſequences. It had been limited, that debts againſt, and claims under, the attainted perſons ſhould be ſued for within ſix months after their eſtates ſhould be ſeverally advertiſed for ſale. But the bill deſtroys this limitation, and directs no other. It is probable, that various diſorders may enſue upon ſuch a departure from the former ſyſtem. Some inquiſitive perſons may perhaps aſk, Why employ any commiſſioners? Why take the management of theſe eſtates, however appropriated, out of the hands of the Council? Has the army found that board neglectful of its intereſts? or indiſpoſed to do them juſtice? It is ſcarcely worth while to obſerve that the Pennſylvania troops, ſome in one place, ſome in another, are a body rather inconveniently circumſtanced to appoint appraiſers or other repreſentatives; and that it is left unſettled, whether the privates ſhall be conſulted in the nomination. But the idea of appraiſers and commiſſioners, on their part, is very improper and inconvenient. The ſtate, a ſovereign power, is odly contraſted with its citizens in the field, as if they were diſtinct and co-ordinate parties. A ſtranger, from hence, would be led moſt injuriouſly to ſuppoſe that the ſtate, having heretofore broken faith with the army, has been reduced to do this, in order to quiet the minds of her abuſed and diſturbed ſoldiers.

However, ſuppoſe, for argument's ſake, this endeavour to appreciate the pay of the Pennſylvania line ſhould have the effect intended, and the prices at which the forfeited eſtates might have been ſold in 1774 aſcertained, yet a fund, ſo very inſufficient for the purpoſes of the bill, would be ſnapt up by thoſe officers or privates, who ſhould be ſo fortunate as to have their arrears firſt ſettled; for ſome muſt neceſſarily be preferred in order of time to others. Muſt the reſt put up with a leſs advantageous ſatisfaction? Such a diſparity would breed diſcontent; for, of all people ſoldiers are eaſieſt offended by unequal treatment.

After all, if the real eſtates appropriated for this uſe were to be ſold at vendue, and payment in money made to each officer and private, this would be much more likely to recompence in fact our very deſerving army, than any ſale wherein their certificates ſhould be the only tender; becauſe the ſums due to any one of them would not be equal to the purchaſe of the ſmalleſt lot of real eſtate. They would therefore be under a neceſſity to part with their vouchers, at ſuch prices as they might get, to enable other perſons to depoſit the neceſſary ſums. But what an opening doth this give for ſpeculation and abuſe! The Pennſylvania line, in their application to the late Aſſembly, foreſeeing this, as it would ſeem, deſired that the privates might not be allowed to transfer their certificates. By the bill, they are allowed to do this, as well as the officers. It would be indecent and unjuſtifiable to hint, that the deſign of the bill was to give an opportunity to intereſted men to make their fortunes out of this buſineſs; yet certainly it would be capable of the higheſt perverſion of this nature. But ſhall the good people of Pennſylvania, burdened and diſtreſſed as they are by the war, make a great and generous exertion to do juſtice to their citizens in the field, and have the mortification to ſee it intercepted and devoured by a ſwarm of locuſts?

A ſecond preamble follows the paragraphs already taken notice of, ſetting forth, that it may happen, that is to ſay, it is poſſible, that the forfeited eſtates may fall ſhort of the arrears of the Pennſylvania line, and thereupon it ſubjects the unappropriated and waſte lands of the State to ſurveys of ſo many acres, as ſhall when valued in like manner as the confiſcated property, make good the deficiency. The nature of this valuation being no further explained, it is left uncertain, whether the waſte lands are to be ſet at the general price, at which the late Proprietaries diſtributed them in 1774, or if each tract ſhould be diſtinctly appraiſed at the price in ſpecie which it might have ſold for, at that period. The latter muſt have been deſigned. For if the ſtanding and general rate of the late Proprietaries were intended, the Legiſlature would certainly have expreſſed it in the Bill, and avoided the needleſs and improper appointment of appraiſers, on their part, to join others named by the Pennſylvania line, for this purpoſe. It is obſervable, that no limits of time or place are ſet to theſe ſurveys. The public eſtate may be embarraſſed for years to come, under pretence that, during the war, the weſtern and northern extremities of the State cannot be conveniently examined; and the unpurchaſed, as well as purchaſed lands may be entered upon, without any regard to the claims of the Indians; both of which circumſtances merit attention. The tying up of the public lands from ſale and ſettlement will have obvious conſequences. Whilſt the Aſſignees of the army ſhall be making ſurveys of large quantities of land, ſelecting and locating every choice ſpot throughout the wilderneſs, the real and regular ſettlement of the back country muſt be at a full ſtand, and the increaſing inhabitants be forced to migrate elſewhere for habitations. Theſe engroſſers will inſiſt, and with great colour, that no Land-Office be opened for general ſale till the military rights be ſatisfied.

In anſwer to this laſt remark, we ſhall be referred to a clauſe in the Bill, by which the preſent, or any future Aſſembly, is enabled to reſume the mortgaged wilderneſs lands, upon paying off the unredeemed certificates in ſpecie. But will this be admitted, whilſt advantages are to be had by taking up lands; or will it be equal, to preclude ſome from benefits which others have had. If the army certificates may be fully and fairly diſcharged with ſpecie hereafter, of what uſe is it to make a better proviſion for their diſcharge at all? Why introduce a miſchievous and diſguſting inequality, among a very deſerving ſett of men, for no purpoſe?

Whilſt this matter is under conſideration, it may not be wholly amiſs to aſk, who is to defray the charges of theſe Commiſſioners on the part of the State, and on the part of the army, in exploring the woods and making theſe ſurveys? Their expences will probably be very large. If the lands of the State muſt be pledged to the Pennſylvania line, would it not be much cheaper and better to open the Land-Office, and direct the certificates of the ſoldiers to be received in payment. At all events, great care ſhould be taken to prevent intruſions on private property, city or town lots, under cover of military rights.

Section the laſt affords an obſervation. It directs the redeemed certificates to remain with the State Treaſurer, "ſubject to the orders of the General Aſſembly." But why not to be cancelled by the Aſſembly? Muſt the Aſſembly make a new law for that purpoſe? The anſwer to this will be, that they may do it by a reſolve. The writer of theſe remarks, however, looks upon the ſolemn and formal acts of the Legiſlature, as the proper and conſtitutional mode of exerting the great authority with which they are inveſted. Sudden and crude reſolves, he thinks, ought not nor do bind, in any caſe, to alter the known laws of the State, or give any new authority.

The ſcheme of this bill affords room for many other obſervations. Such as the little attention it pays to the other States in union. New-Jerſey has ſold her forfeited eſtates. Neither New-Jerſey, Delaware nor Maryland, have any waſte lands to pledge to their troops. Rhode-Iſland and Connecticut are deſtitute of ſuch a fund. The opportunity it would afford to ſpeculators to engroſs enormous quantities of back lands, is another difficulty. But the remarks on the general purpoſes of the bill ſhall be carried no further at this time. Suffice it to beg the readers further attention to what is conſidered by ſome as a capital and unaccountable omiſſion in their repreſentatives. To make this matter plain, it will be neceſſary to refer to the minutes of the laſt Aſſembly. By them it appears, that Colonel Johnſton, Colonel Humpton and Lieutenant Colonel Harman, the ſame gentlemen who have revived this buſineſs, in behalf of the Pennſylvania line, before the preſent houſe, preſented a memorial to them. A Committee was appointed to confer with theſe officers. The report of this Committee on the 21ſt of September laſt appears at large. They ſay, that "the officers of "the Pennſylvania line requeſt notes to be given for their "arrearages, on ſuch principles as appear to your Com"mittee to be equitable and juſt. They deſire their ac"counts to be adjuſted and liquidated, and the depre"ciation to be made up to them, calculating it at the "periods at which they have received their pay, and *de*"*ducting therefrom the prices of whatever refreſhments, and* "*other gratuities, they have received at different times from* "*the State, which were given to them in conſequence of the* "*depreciation.* They are ſenſible of the ſtate of our fi"nances, and many of them would be ſatisfied without "receiving any money at preſent, but with the faith of "the State to be pledged for their payment, when the "ſituation of our finances will admit, and in the mean "time for their accounts to be ſettled, and notes, payable "in ſpecie, to be given for their arrearages; thoſe to the "privates not to be negotiable, but thoſe of the officers "to be negotiable". To this very reaſonable requeſt, the late aſſembly moſt chearfully acceded; but the period of their exiſtence drawing near, they recommend the fulfillment of it to the immediate attention of the next General Aſſembly. The preſent Houſe have accordingly paid an early regard to the advice of their predeceſſors. The bill we have been conſidering is a full proof of this. Yet how altered from the modeſt requeſt of the Commiſſioners of the Pennſylvania line. How comes it that the bill contains no direction to the Auditors to enquire after any draughts of clothing, ſtores or extra proviſions, by the officers from the magazines of the United States? why are not the deductions, propoſed and expected by the troops, for the coſt of the refreſhments and clothing furniſhed by the State, ſet forth in explicit terms? why is it not ordered, that the iſſues of rum, ſugar, coffee, tea and tobacco, continued ever ſince March 1779 to the officers and privates, and the ſuits of clothes, provided for the commiſſioned officers, ſhall be allowed for, in ſtating their arrears? Some gentlemen in the Houſe may perhaps conſider this as a trifling matter, but if the vaſt ſums which have been drawn from the State treaſury, for theſe purpoſes, were looked into, it would ſtartle their conſtituents. Poſſeſſed of no proper materials, nor within reach of any, the writer of theſe reflections can only gueſs at the amount. If he may be allowed to gueſs, and call it Fifty Thouſand Pounds in ſpecie, it is certainly too much to give up, without knowing why, and in this indirect and covert manner. If we make the troops a preſent, let us have the credit of it. The gentlemen of the army, as appears by the minutes of the late Houſe of Aſſembly, aſked nothing like it. They were appriſed of the ſituation of the public finances, and did not even ſeek the land-ſecurity, which the bill propoſes. We wiſh, ſay they, "the faith of the State to be pledged for our payment, when the finances of the State will permit."

Can this omiſſion be a meer overſight of the preſent Members, or has their Clerk or Printer left out part of the bill? They muſt have read the votes of the laſt Aſſembly on this ſubject. How then has this buſineſs gone wrong? ſurely the Houſe can not be ignorant of the diſtreſs of our finances; nor can they be ſuppoſed to deſign at this hour of difficulty to ſaddle their conſtituents with a heavy debt, which was neither owing to nor expected by the Military; and to mortgage needleſly our public real eſtate, in order to ſecure and to pay it; thoſe lands out of which it was hoped to have drawn a revenue, in eaſe and aid of our taxes.

The further diſcuſſion of theſe queſtions would perhaps lead into great errors. They can be beſt anſwered by thoſe, who are qualifyed to ſatisfy the public.

Many uſeful obſervations may be made upon the expreſſion or wording of the bill. They muſt be poſtponed. In the mean time theſe haſty remarks are left to public conſideration.

* *Syntagma Antiquit. Romanorum, p.* 37, 38.

GRAND LODGE, *Philadelphia, Nov.* 29, 1780.

THE different Lodges, under the juriſdiction of the *Grand Lodge of Pennſylvania*, are requeſted to take Notice, that the *Monday preceding St. John's Day*, happening this Year to be *Chriſtmas Day*, the GRAND COMMUNICATION will be held on *Monday, the* 18*th Day of December*, in the Grand Lodge Room, Lodge Alley, at Ten o'Clock in the Forenoon, and it is hoped the different Officers, who, by the wholeſome Rules of *Maſonry*, ought to be preſent, will be punctual in their attendance, as matters of very general importance to the whole Fraternity will be laid before them.

By Order of the Right Worſhipful Grand Maſter,
WM. MOORE SMITH, D. G. Secr'y.

Newport, November 22, 1780.

TAKEN UP by the ſubſcriber in Newport, Newcaſtle county, on Delaware, about four weeks ago, A Stray HORSE, 4 years old, of a cheſnut colour, with a ſmall ſtar, and one white foot; no brand nor ear-mark that can be diſcovered. The owner is deſired to come, prove his property, pay charges, and take him away, otherwiſe he will be ſold as the law directs, by

JAMES GEMBLE.

Six Hundred Dollars Reward.

STOLEN or STRAYED, on the 2d of this inſtant December, from Charles Hayes's mill, in Germantown townſhip, A Brown MARE, with a ſwitch tail, half blooded, branded on the near buttock M S: Marked under the tail as if ſhe had been torn with a nail; between 4 and 5 years old, a natural trotter; has a little white on one of her hind feet. Whoever brings the ſaid creature to MICHAEL TAYLOR, on the Widow Harriſon's place, on the Ridge road, ſhall receive the above reward. ¶

November 22, 1780.

CAME to the plantation of John Sharpleſs, in Concord, the 20th of this inſtant, A Sorrel HORSE, with a blaze down his face, collar marked. The owner proving his property, paying the charges, may have him again, by applying to ¶ WILLIAM ARMENT.

BASSETERRE (*St. Chriſtopher's*) *October* 16.

We ſhould at all times be happy to give our readers agreeable intelligence, but are ſorry we have nothing to offer the public in this paper, but a repetition of diſtreſſing and melancholy events. On Wedneſday, at midnight, it blew a very hard gale, and increaſed all next day, with a very high ſea, which drove the following veſſels aſhore; a ſhip, with part of her cargoe of lumber on board, prize to the privateer ſhip Bellona; a ſloop and ſchooner, prizes to the Spitfire, Capt. Mairs; a ſloop belonging to Mr. H. Sibly, foundered; and a ſloop, prize to a man of war; ſeveral of the veſſels put out to ſea, many of which in going out ran foul of other veſſels at anchor, and did conſiderable damage; a brig ſtill at anchor had her foremaſt and bowſprit carried away, a ſhip had alſo her foremaſt and bowſprit carried away, and the Matthew, Capt. Sleig, in endeavouring to get out, ran foul of the Brotherſon, Capt. Tomlin, and forced her from her anchors; this laſt had her yards and topmaſts ſtruck, and was ſo light that ſhe could not go to ſea, and was conſequently forced aſhore at Johnſon's Bay, where ſhe ſoon went to pieces, and the mate was drowned; a ſchooner belonging to Tobago, bound to New-York with rum, put out from the Salt-ponds, and was forced aſhore under Londonderry fort; a veſſel loaded with tobacco, from St. Euſtatius, and a ſmall ſchooner, were ſeen to founder off Half-way Tree; and a ſchooner, belonging to Mr. Priddie, drove aſhore at Palmeto Point, and was totally loſt. On that day and the next, tho' the wind had in ſome degree abated, the ſurge was ſo exceſſive high, that many ſpars, hogſheads of coals, &c. &c. were waſhed off the bay, and great injury done to ſeveral houſes. On Saturday the wind abated, and we were in hopes that the violence of the weather was over, in which we were in a great degree confirmed by a heavy rain, with thunder and lightning, ſetting in yeſterday morning; but about eight o'clock the wind ſhifted to the ſouthward, which increaſed the ſwell, by which the Minerva, Capt. Robbin, juſt arrived from Briſtol, with a cargoe worth 18,000l ſterling on board, was forced on the reef of Smith's fort, where ſhe now lies with all her maſts cut away, bilged, and ſo far from the ſhore, that if the weather continues her crew and cargoe muſt inevitably periſh. A brig from Salem, with a cargoe of fiſh and lumber on board, prize to the Venus frigate, overſet in the breakers, by which one man, attempting to ſwim aſhore, was drowned, but the reſt of the crew ſtuck to her bottom, and have ſince got aſhore; ſhe is gone to pieces.

Yeſterday, about two o'clock in the afternoon, a light ſhip, ſuppoſed to be Capt. Hart from Nevis, came off here, firing a number of diſtreſs guns; ſhe was immediately aſſiſted by boats from the ſhips, and came to by an anchor and cable left by one of the ſhips which put out.

This morning, at ſix o'clock, the Minerva was ſtill at a great diſtance from the ſhore; a few of her hands have ſwam aſhore, and inform that her gun-deck is entirely under water, and that ſhe muſt ſoon go to pieces.----The wind lulled and the ſea abated.

The Rowley, Capt. Power, and all the other veſſels which lay at the Salt ponds, went aſhore and were daſhed to pieces.

Several veſſels are now in the offing, ſome of which appear to be damaged; a brig with both top-maſts, and a ſchooner her main-maſt, carried away.

ST. JOHN'S (in Antigua) *November* 1.

On Tueſday, the 24th of October, arrived at St. Kitts an American ſchooner, prize to the Stag letter of marque, of Liverpool; the prize maſter ſays the Stag left England the 7th of September, nothing was then done in the channel; our grand fleet in port.

The damage done on the bay of St. Euſtatius to houſes and goods is ſaid to be computed at 150,000l. ſterling

A letter from Grenada paints a moſt dreadful ſcene; nine large Dutch ſugar loaded ſhips foundered or were wrecked in the Carenage, half the town of St. George's is deſtroyed, and few or none of the eſtates have eſcaped.---St. Vincent has felt it, if poſſible, worſe; that ill-fated iſland is almoſt completely ruined.----The Juno French frigate is loſt in Kingſton bay.

A veſſel is arrived at St. Kitts. She left Dominica in the beginning of the gale, which threatened deſtruction there.

BOSTON, *November* 16.

Tueſday laſt arrived in this harbour the letter of marque brig Amſterdam, Capt. Magee, in 44 days from Gottenburgh, in Sweden. On his paſſage from hence to that port, he took a Britiſh veſſel and carried her to Gottenburgh, where the prize was ſold. On his return he captured another Britiſh veſſel bound to Newfoundland, with proviſions and dry goods, ſaid to be a very valuable prize.

By a gentleman who came paſſenger with Capt. Magee, we learn, that there have been but few Britiſh cruizers in the northern ſeas the ſummer paſt, and thoſe few had met with little or no ſucceſs; but that a number of French cruizers had appeared in that quarter, and captured many Britiſh veſſels, ſome of very great value, ſo that Britain has felt no inconſiderable blow on her trade in thoſe ſeas, as well as in other parts, and will be much diſappointed this year in the important articles of naval ſtores. We are further informed, that the northern maritime powers in Europe had been ſtrengthening their alliance, formed with a view to defend their rights of neutrality on the high ſeas, againſt the lawleſs power of Britain; and were more determined than ever to admit no ſearch of their veſſels purſuing their voyages, from Britiſh men of war or cruizers; by which means the trade of France and Spain, and every kind of ſupply for thoſe powers, will be ſecured in neutral bottoms. The combined fleets of Ruſſia, Sweden, and Denmark, excluſive of thoſe belonging to the States of Holland, amounted to upwards of 40 men of war, which had put to ſea, and, after being joined, had convoyed a large quantity of ſtores to France, where they had arrived, and in the ports of which they were left when the laſt advices were received at Gottenburgh. We have alſo advice, through the ſame channel, that the fleets of France and Spain had put to ſea, and made a junction; and that the Britiſh fleet that had been cruizing ſome time in the channel and off Breſt, had choſe to relinquiſh that ſtation, and were retired to Torbay, where, by the laſt accounts, they were ſafe at anchor; while the combined fleets were again maſters of the channel, and would probably give ſome further ſtroke of importance to the trade, if not to the fleet of Britain.

It is allowed, on all hands, that the impreſſion made on the Britiſh trade this year by the allied powers has been much greater than any during the war: The capture of the Quebec fleet, and the ſucceſſes in other quarters, added to the capital ſtroke of Admiral Cordova, make a greater loſs to Britain than any thing of the kind ſhe has felt for near a century paſt, and muſt greatly affect her finances.

A few days ago a ſhip of 300 tons, from Jamaica bound to London, having on her paſſage met with bad weather, in which ſhe was obliged to throw all her guns overboard and ſtave 70 hogſheads of rum between decks, put into Canſo harbour on the Nova-Scotia ſhore to refit, and immediately diſpatched her boat to Halifax for aſſiſtance: On the paſſage the boat met with two armed ſhallops of 15 men each from Salem, who took the boat, and gaining intelligence of the ſituation of the ſhip, proceeded for Canſo, and on their arrival took poſſeſſion of the ſhip without any reſiſtance, brought her away, and arrived ſafe in Salem harbour laſt Tueſday morning, having on board 380 hogſheads of rum and ſugar, beſides other valuable effects.

A prize brig to the Franklin privateer arrived at Salem on Monday evening, her cargo beef and pork.

Tueſday laſt arrived at Beverly, the ſhip Rambler, Captain Lover, in 48 days from Gottenburgh.

The brig Adventure, Captain Morris, of this port, and the ſhips Thorn and Franklin, of Salem, have lately captured a number of very valuable prizes; ſome of them are ſafe arrived, and the others daily expected.

PHILADELPHIA, *December* 6.

Extract of a letter from Major-General Gates to Congreſs, dated November 14, 1780.

"This inſtant Major Bruin, late Aid de Camp to Major-General Sullivan, arrived in camp, and acquaints me that General Sumpter, in conſequence of orders I gave him at Hillſborough to act upon the weſt ſide of the Wateree, had, after a ſevere conteſt with Major Wemyſs, defeated him and his whole command, having wounded and taken the Major priſoner, with twenty-five of his party; many were left dead on the ground, and a conſiderable number of fine horſes and arms fell alſo into the hands of General Sumpter. In the pocket of Major Wemyſs was found a liſt of the whigs houſes he had burnt upon Pedee, which, with all his papers, as ſoon as I receive them, ſhall be tranſmitted to Congreſs. The enemy do not now poſſeſs a ſingle poſt eaſt of George-Town, or north of Camden; while Colonel Marian and General Harrington command the country eaſt of the Santee, and are continually interrupting the enemy's craft upon this river."

Publiſhed by order of Congreſs,

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

A gentleman from New-Jerſey informs us of the following brilliant action by Major Talmage, of the ſecond regiment of light dragoons. About a week ago the Major with eighty of his regiment diſmounted croſſed from Connecticut to Long Iſland; leaving twenty men with his boats, he proceeded with the reſt to a fort at Smithtown, which he compleatly ſurprized; but the garriſon taking to ſome houſes within the works, and firing from the windows, obliged the Major to force them, in doing which ſeven of the enemy were killed; fifty privates and four officers were immediately taken priſoners: Major Talmage then deſtroyed the fortification, and burnt 300 tons of hay, together with a ſmall veſſel loaded; ſoon after embarked, and landed ſafe with his priſoners in Connecticut.

The following paragraph is taken from the Virginia Gazette of November 26.—"Laſt Wedneſday about ten "o'clock the whole of the enemy's fleet weighed anchor "and fell down the capes, where they met two veſſels "coming in (ſuppoſed to be the two diſpatched from the "fleet a few days after they arrived here) when they all "came to again. After ſtaying awhile, the whole got "under ſail, and were yeſterday quite out of ſight."

Friday laſt arrived in this city the Chevalier de CHATELLAUX, Marechal de Camp, one of the forty of the French Academy, a gentleman no leſs conſpicuous in the republic of letters than in the profeſſion of arms. The General was attended by his Aids, the Baron de Monteſquieu, grandſon of the great Monteſquieu, Captain Lynch, and Colonel Dupleſſis.

Extract of a letter dated St. Pierre, Martinique, October 16th, 1780.

"On the 10th inſtant a fleet of fifty-two ſail of veſſels arrived here from Bourdeaux, but laſt from Corunna, under convoy of a ſingle frigate. A few days before they made land, they fell in with and took a large letter of marque ſhip from England bound to Antigua, loaded with dry goods, and carried her into Fort-Royal. Another frigate that came out with the fleet gave chace the day before their arrival to another large Engliſh letter of marque ſhip, which ſhe took and carried into Fort-Royal alſo: this laſt mentioned veſſel was from Newfoundland, and had 400 hogſheads of cod-fiſh on board. All the merchant ſhips came to an anchor in this harbour. The day of their arrival a very ſudden gale of wind ſprung up at N. E. and tho' the gale increaſed and continued without intermiſſion, the ſhipping kept their ſtations, as the wind then blew off the land, until the 11th, when many of them weighed anchor and got under way: ſome ſlipped their cables and went out, and ſeveral parted with their cables and were driven out by the violence of the wind. On the night of the 11th the wind ſhifted to the ſouthward, and after continuing there two or three hours, veered round to S. W. and blew right in ſhore; between two and three o'clock in the morning of the 12th, the ſea was ſuddenly thrown into the moſt violent agitation and raged with incredible fury; many dwelling houſes and ſtores, that ſtood along the bay, were almoſt inſtantly deſtroyed with the violence of the waves, and the poor inhabitants in many places, finding it impoſſible to eſcape at the front parts of their houſes, were obliged to break holes through ſtrong ſtone walls in the back parts of their buildings, and eſcape that way with their lives into adjoining buildings behind, and leave all their property to the mercy of the ſea.

"The Fort, a ſtrong ſtone fortification, that ſtood near the water edge at the north end of the town, and has bid defiance to that boiſterous element for eighty years paſt, was demoliſhed in leſs than three hours, and the guns are either buried in the ſand or have rolled down the bank into the ſea.

"A ſtrong ſtone wall, ſix feet high, and from four to five feet thick, that ſtretched along the bay from one end of the town to the other, with intervals here and there to admit a paſſage to the water-ſide and was erected many years ago to defend the houſes from the violence of the ſurf in the hurricane months, was beaten down in half an hour's time, and there is now not the leaſt veſtige of it remaining, even its very foundation is waſhed up out of the ground. Not a ſingle building that ſtood in the lower ſtreet next the ſea, but what is either entirely deſtroyed or rendered utterly unſerviceable.

"The town of Preſcluſe, that ſtood about five miles from this place, is entirely deſtroyed; there is only one houſe and the church left ſtanding in it.

"Fort-Royal has ſuffered but little. One of the prizes above-mentioned was drove aſhore in the bay at that place, the other went out to ſea, and we have ſince heard nothing of her. The two frigates that convoyed the fleet from France rode out the ſtorm, and have received no damage; one of them had a large ſum in ſpecie on board, which ſhe brought out for the payment of the troops, and fortunately ſaved it.

"In the country the ſcene is truly diſtreſſing. The cane and fruit trees are in many places blown down and entirely deſtroyed.

"Before Admiral Rodney left theſe ſeas, he ſtationed three ſhips of the line, viz the Ajax, the Vengeance and the Montague, and five frigates, at St. Lucia, to annoy the trade of this place. Accounts have been received here from that iſland, that the Ajax and two of the frigates have been drove aſhore at Gros-Iſlet and loſt, with the greateſt part of their crews; and the Vengeance, which lay in the carenage at that place, is exceedingly damaged. The gale laſted there forty-eight hours, and laid waſte the whole country. The Montague went out to ſea, and has not yet been heard of.

"The fortifications on Mont Fontunay at that place are all blown down and deſtroyed.

"Two Engliſh frigates, viz. the Andromeda, of 22 guns, and the Aurora, of 36 guns, are drove aſhore at the windward part of this iſland, and are entirely loſt; the crew of the former were all drowned except 18 men: We have not yet heard how many men the Aurora loſt.

"One of the fleet that arrived here the 10th inſtant is drove aſhore in this harbour, entirely diſmaſted: We have not yet heard the fate of the reſt."

Extract of another letter, dated St. Pierre, Martinique, October 30, 1780.

"In St. Vincent there has been 600 houſes deſtroyed by the late tempeſt, and the interior parts of the country entirely laid waſte.

"Two of the fleet that were driven from their anchors in this port, on the 11th inſtant, are returned; two others have arrived at Gaudaloupe; but we have as yet heard nothing of the reſt."

Extract of a letter, dated St. Euſtatia, Nov. 9, 1780.

"Theſe iſlands have ſuffered very much by a hurricane, though thoſe to windward are much worſe off than ourſelves. We are told, that in Barbados there are no houſes left intire, all the wind-mills blown down, and near 1500 lives loſt. St. Vincents is in much the ſame ſituation. Grenada, Dominique, St. Lucia, and Martinique, are much damaged. Every low ſituation is entirely deſtroyed by the ſea, which raged with more violence than was ever known before.

"The town of Savanna La Mar, in Jamaica, is entirely ſwept away, with moſt of its inhabitants. Other parts of that iſland are alſo in a very ruinous ſituation.

"The Phœnix Britiſh ſhip of war is loſt on Cape Mais; the Pomona frigate on Porto Rico."

Since our laſt arrived a prize ſloop, from New-York bound to Charleſtown, with a cargo of ſalt; ſent in by the Ariel, Captain Lawler.

The following is taken from a Holland paper, with their remark at bottom.

London, Sept. 1. The Allegator privateer, from London, Captain Craig, has taken and brought to Falmouth, the Liberty, a Ruſſian ſnow, from Riga to Nantz, with 220 bales of hemp and 550 bars of iron. This is the firſt Ruſſian veſſel, that we know of, that the Engliſh have captured. We are very anxious to know what will be the event of this affair at the Court of Ruſſia.

Since the apprehenſion of the perſons mentioned in our laſt paper, further diſcoveries have been made, of a dangerous and infamous commerce with New-York. It appears that a partnerſhip has been formed of perſons in Philadelphia, New-Jerſey and New-York, to carry lumber, which is in ſo great demand in New-York, that boards have ſold at thirty pounds, ſpecie, per thouſand. The veſſels were cleared out for Boſton, or ſome other eaſtern port, ſteered directly for New-York, if taken, they were provided with paſſports from the Britiſh Admiral, which ſent them forward: when they arrived at New-York, the parties there took the management; the cargo was depoſited generally at the King's yard, where timber is much wanted. Goods were purchaſed in return, or ſpecie ſent out, but generally the former. The American commiſſary of priſoners charged the Captain and mariners as American priſoners, and received of equal rank and number in return. One of theſe Captains has been five times in New-York ſince laſt ſpring. A great number of perſons are charged, chiefly in New-Jerſey, who it is hoped by this time are ſafe in the hands of juſtice, and will meet their deſerts. No leſs than three of theſe Captains came out laſt Saturday week, viz. James Steelman, John Shaw, and William Black, who are all apprehended and in priſon. One Atkinſon, another of the gang, made his eſcape into New-Jerſey.

A Half-Johannes Reward.

ON the 30th ult. ran away from the ſubſcriber, in the borough of Cheſter, a Dutch ſervant man, named DANIEL DEGAN (but may probably change it to JACOB DAYE, as he did formerly on a ſimilar occaſion) about 21 years of age, 5 feet 9 or 10 inches high, wears his own ſtrait brown hair; had on an old beaver hat, a half-worn ſnuff-coloured jacket with ſleeves, broke out at the elbows, a ſhort blue under jacket, tow ſhirt, old ſcarlet breeches with ſilk knee garters, black woollen ſtockings, and good ſhoes, with ſtrings in them; he is of a ruddy complexion, ſpeaks good Engliſh, and has been 18 months in the Continental army. It is ſuppoſed he is gone over Suſquehanna, as his father lives near Frederick's-Town, in Virginia or Maryland. Whoever takes up ſaid ſervant, and ſecures him, ſo that I may have him again, ſhall have the above reward, or its value in Continental currency, and reaſonable charges, paid by

December 4, 1780. ¶ ELISHA PRICE.

Three Hundred Dollars Reward.

WAS ſtolen away from his maſter, living in Colrain township, Lancaſter county, on the 12th of September laſt, an indented ſervant boy, named ROBERT WEST, about nine years of age: Had on, when he was ſtolen, a blue cloth coat with ſmall metal buttons, a tow ſhirt and trowſers, an old felt hat. The thieves concerned in taking him away were, a certain Owen Martin, his ſtep father, and Hannah Martin, alias Weſt, his mother. Said Owen is broken backed; both are native Iriſh, which may eaſily be diſcerned by their tongue. Their common occupation is begging, and both are very fond of ſpiritous liquors, and when intoxicated, much given to prophane ſwearing. Whoever ſecures the boy in any goal, ſo that his maſter may have him again, ſhall have One Hundred Dollars Reward, and reaſonable charges if brought home; and for ſecuring the thieves as above, One Hundred Dollars, paid by ROBERT ROSS, jun.

All perſons are forbid to harbour them.

November 27, 1780.

Four Hundred Dollars Reward.

RUN AWAY from the subscriber, living in West-Nantmill township, Chester county, on the night of the 15th November,

A NEGROE MAN, named DUBLIN, about 35 years of age, 5 feet 5 or 6 inches high, well set, some of his fore teeth out. Had on, when he went away, a lightish coloured cloath coat, with metal buttons, and lined with striped linsey, a lightish linsey jacket with sleeves, and red waistcoat, tow shirt, old lightish cloth breeches and linen drawers, blue stockings, old shoes. Whoever takes up said Negroe, and delivers him to the subscriber, or confines him in any goal, so that the owner may have him again, shall receive the above reward, and reasonable charges, paid by

‡ RICHARD PIERSOL.

Philadelphia, November 22, 1780.

STRAYED, or drove by some evil-minded person, into the garden of the subscriber, living in Walnut-street, near Fifth street, on the night of the 20th or 21st instant, and had been several times trespassing there before, a red COW, with some white on her belly and sides, about four years old. The owner is desired to come, prove property, pay charges and take her away, otherwise she will be sold in one month from the above date.

JOHN HALL.

To ALL whom it may concern.

State of New-Jersey, ss.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a Court of Admiralty will be held for the State of New-Jersey, at the house of Isaac Wood, Innholder, in Mount Holly, in the county of Burlington, on Tuesday, the nineteenth day of December next, at the hour of ten in the forenoon of the same day, then and there to try the truth of the facts alledged in the bills of Stephen Decatur, (who as well &c.) against the brig or vessel called the Rodney, taken at sea on her voyage from Liverpool, to South-Carolina, and lately commanded by—— Wignall;—of Stephen Decatur and Roger Kaighn, (who as well &c.) against the brigantine or vessel called the Rodney, taken at sea on her voyage from Plymouth to South-Carolina, William Robbins, late Master; — Of David Stevens, (who as well &c.) against a certain schooner or vessel Virginia built, burden about thirty tons, taken at sea, no person being on board, loaded with tobacco;— against the schooner called the Flying Fish, a recaptured vessel;— Of Joshua Studson, (who as well &c.) against the schooner or vessel called the John;—against the sloop or vessel called the Catherine, which said schooner John, and sloop Catherine were lately taken by said Joshua Studson, on the south side of Staten-Island, near Prince's Bay;— Of Samuel Bigelow (who as well &c.) against a certain schooner called the Betsey, a re-captured vessel, drove on the bar at Cranberry-Inlet by distress of weather, formerly belonging to some inhabitant of the State of Delaware, and said to be cut out of Mush-Melon creek by the enemy, and also against negroe Toney, taken on board said schooner Betsey; Of Stephen Decatur and Roger Kaighn, (who as well &c.) against the brig or vessel called the Richard, taken at sea on her voyage from Glasgow to Charlestown, James Robison late Master; with their respective tackle, apparel, furniture and cargoes: To the end and intent that the owner or owners of the said vessels respectively, or any other person or persons interested therein, may appear and shew cause, if any they have, why the said vessels and their respective tackle, apparel, furniture and cargoes, and the said negroe Toney, should not be condemned to the several captors thereof, and decrees thereon pass, pursuant to the prayer of the said bills.

By Order of the Judge,

JOSEPH BLOOMFIELD, *Register.*

Haddonfield, Nov. 18, 1780.

TO BE SOLD,

A Valuable PLANTATION, whereon Colonel Thomas Strawbridge now dwells, situate in the lower part of Chester county, on a public road, leading from Lancaster to Newport and Wilmington, about a mile from J. Ruston's, and three from L. Pusey's mill, containing two hundred and forty-two acres of land, about 50 acres whereof is in wood, and about 40 acres is mowable meadow, which at a trifling expence may be encreased to 50 acres, under water-course, the remainder of the land is arable, a moderate portion whereof produced upwards of 600 bushels of grain the preceding year: There are on the premises, a commodious stone dwelling house, having two well finished rooms below and four chambers, with a good lodging garret under new cedar roof; there is a large stone kitchen adjoining, and a good dry cellar under the house; a large convenient barn, about 70 feet long, a well constructed stone stable, a waggon and corn-house under one roof; a stone spring-house, two stories high, supplied by an excellent spring handy to the dwelling; there is also a tenement suitable for a small family; with several other out houses. The place is well supplied with fruit of different sorts, having about 150 well grown apple-trees, beside a young orchard of 250 trees, being a collection of various kinds of the best grafted fruit; the land is very favourable to grass, being well watered by several streams, a main branch of Elk creek running through it, which affords an opportunity of erecting a mill, if required: the situation, by experience, is healthy, in a good neighbourhood, and about 17 miles from a public landing. For farther information enquire at the bridge or Lower-ferry, on Schuylkill, of James Lindley, at New-Garden, or the Printers hereof. November 22, 1780.

TO BE SOLD,

A LOT of GROUND, situate in Plymouth township, near Plymouth Meeting-house, 14 miles from the city of Philadelphia; there are erected on the said lot, a two story stone messuage, a stone barn and stable, a frame shed, also a large stone store house, where a large store has been kept for many years past; a well of excellent water at the door. The said place is suitable for any public business, as there is public entertainment kept there at present. Any person inclining to purchase the said place, may know the terms of sale, by applying to the owner, living on the premises.

¶ LEVI TRUMP.

Four Hundred Dollars Reward.

STOLEN out of the pasture of the subscriber, living in Ridley township, Chester county, in Pennsylvania, a black GELDING, 14 hands high, 13 years old, with a star and snip, his near hind foot white, and a blemish on his off eye. Whoever secures the horse and thief, so as the thief is convicted and the owner gets the horse again, shall receive the above reward, or Two Hundred Dollars for the horse only. ‖ WILLIAM PRICE.

CAME to the plantation of the subscriber, in Providence township, Philadelphia county, in September last, Six SHEEP, one of them with a bell. Whoever owns the said sheep, are desired to come, pay the charges, and take them away.

‖ ABRAHAM REINER.

Philadelphia, November 12, 1780

WAS taken up this morning, trespassing on the subscriber, in his meadow in Passyunk, near the mouth of Schuylkill, the following creatures, viz. a bay HORSE, near 14 hands high, branded AM in one, and has bad hoofs. A black two year old MARE COLT, and a bay yearling COLT. The owner or owners are desired to apply to RICHARD BARRY, at the Conestogoe Waggon, in Market-street, prove their property, pay charges and take them away, otherwise they will be sold for the same, agreeable to a law of the State. ¶

CAME to the plantation of the subscriber, in Oxford township, Philadelphia county, the 6th of October ult. a dark brown HORSE, about 8 or 9 years old, 14 hands high, shod all round. The owner is desired to come, prove property, pay charges, and take him away.

¶ JOSEPH YATES.

WILLIAM NICHOLLS

Has removed his store from Mr. Owen Jones's to the store formerly occupied by Mr. Sitgreaves, on the north side of Market street, opposite the Indian King; where he has to sell, by wholesale or retail, a quantity of the following articles, viz.

Superfine, second & coarse broadcloths, of all colours;
Coatings;
Blue, brown and cloth coloured naps;
Velvets and corderoys of all colours, spotted & flowered;
Dark and light coloured chintzes;
Cambricks and lawns;
Cambrick and lawn handkerchiefs, spotted and flowered;
Linen handkerchiefs;
Camblets, duroys, rattinets;
Serges and drawboys;
Taffeties, persians, pelongs;
Modes and sarsnets;
Ladies silk mitts;
Good sewing silk;
Silk, worsted & coarse hose;
Plain, figured and chain gauze;
Britannias;
Russia and Irish sheetings, broad and narrow;
Marseilles quiltings;
Diapers and dimities;
White and coloured thread;
Tapes and bobbins;
Pins and needles;
Checks;
Barcelona handkerchiefs;
A quantity of imported boots and shoes;
Also, Madeira and claret wine, Jamaica spirit and West-India rum, with many other articles too tedious to enumerate.

Said Nicholls takes this opportunity of returning his best thanks to those who have been so obliging as to favour him with their custom at his late store, and hopes for a continuance of their friendship. He flatters himself that his methods of procuring supplies are so advantageous, that he will be enabled to make it the interest of every person to frequent his store.

NOTICE is hereby given, that there now is at the plantation, in the tenure of Aaron Garrett, in the township of Willis-Town, Chester county, Pennsylvania, A Black BULL, supposed to be rising three years old last spring, having a crop off the near ear, and a swallow-fork in the off ear. The owner is desired to come, prove his property, pay charges, and take him away.

AARON GARRETT.

Willis Town, Nov. 10, 1780. ‖

The 10th day of the 11th Month, 1780.

CAME to the plantation of the subscriber, in Middletown township, Bucks county, A Sorrel MARE, with a white blaze down her face; supposed to be three years old, thirteen hands high. The owner is desired to come, prove his property, pay charges, and take her away. § THOMAS PAXSON.

JOHN BENEZET,

INTENDING very shortly for Europe, requests all persons indebted to him to discharge their accounts immediately, and those to whom he is indebted to bring in their accounts, that they may be settled and paid.

Said BENEZET has for sale, West-India Rum, Sugars and Molasses; also a few Pipes of excellent MADEIRA, which he will dispose of very low for cash.

November 7, 1780. ¶

Two Guineas Reward.

RAN-AWAY on Tuesday last, a likely NEGROE LAD, aged 16 years, slim made and a little inclined to a yellow complection: had on, when he went away, a light blue coat, leather breeches, blue yarn stockings, with square brass buckles in his shoes; his name PETER. Any person taking up and conveying said Lad to Mr. JOHN MEASE, of Philadelphia, shall receive the above reward, exclusive of necessary charges. All Captains of ships are cautioned not to suffer said Negroe to proceed with them to sea. §

A Half Johannes Reward,

Or the EXCHANGE in Continental Currency.

RAN away, last night, from the subscriber, a Negroe man, named BRISS, a well-made fellow, about 35 years old, has remarkable large feet, formerly belonged to Major Hugg, of Gloucester county; had on, when he went away, a brown homespun waistcoat, ozenbrigs shirt and trowsers, old shoes, and an old hat. Whoever takes up said Negroe and secures him in any goal, so as his master may have him again, shall have the above reward, and reasonable charges, paid by

¶ ROBERT JOHNSON.

Salem, Oct. 30, 1780.

Six Hundred Dollars Reward.

STRAYED or STOLEN, the 26th day of October last, from the borough of Chester, in Chester county, SIX CATTLE: Their description as follows:—One large black cow, fat; one red ditto, with a white face; one do. red and white, gave milk when she went away; one ditto, brindle, with some white in her face; two dark brown ditto, one of which had a white back, the other a freckled face. Whoever takes up said cattle and delivers them to either of us the subscribers, shall have the above reward, and reasonable charges, and if stolen, FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS for bringing the thief to justice, paid by

WILLIAM THOMSON, London Grove, or
EDWARD VERNON, Chester borough. ¶

Philadelphia, November 6, 1780.

THE CORPORATION for the Relief of PRESBYTERIAN MINISTERS, their Widows and Children, are to meet on Wednesday, the 29th of November, at Ten o'Clock, A. M. at the First Presbyterian Church in this City, to consider how the Rates and Annuities are to be paid, the Fund having suffered greatly by the Depreciation of the Continental Currency.

JAMES SPROAT, Secretary.

New-Britain township, Bucks county, Nov. 1, 1780.

WAS FOUND some time ago, between Philadelphia and the Rising-Sun Tavern, a Leather POCKET-BOOK, in which was some Continental currency, and a certificate for an oath of allegiance to the States. The owner coming, proving property, and paying charges, may have it again. WILLIAM HYNES.

TO BE LETT,

THAT elegant Seat called MOUNT-PLEASANT, about four miles from Town, on the Wissahickon-road, with or without the Farm belonging thereto. For Terms, apply to

WILLIAM M'MULLIN, Esq; in Southwark.

Two Hundred Dollars Reward,

STRAYED, on the night of the 7th instant, from the yard of the Black Bear Tavern, in Market-street, A YOKE of OXEN; one a black and white, about 9 years old, with its horns cut; the other a brindle, with its horns cut, and holes through them, about 7 years old. Whoever gives information to EZRA JONES, in Market-street, near Fifth-street, so that they may be had again, shall have the above reward, and reasonable charges, paid by

RICHARD KEYS, or
Philadelphia, Nov. 9. EZRA JONES. ¶

Ridley township, Chester county, Nov. 14, 1780.

TAKEN trespassing in my inclosure the latter end of last July, a chestnut sorrel MARE COLT not docked, two or three years old, twelve and an half hands high, branded C H on the near shoulder, was shod before when taken up. The owner is desired to come, prove his property, pay charges, and take her away.

‖ WILLIAM PRICE.

Just PUBLISHED, and to be SOLD by

FRANCIS BAILEY,

In Market-street, between Third and Fourth streets, three doors west of the Post-Office,

The Continental Almanac;

CONTAINING, besides every thing necessary in an Almanac, a description of the Figures (the Devil and General Arnold, &c.) exhibited and paraded through the streets of Philadelphia, on Saturday the 30th of September, 1780, illustrated with a Plate neatly engraved,—Prophesies, &c. &c. &c.

Also, ANDRE's TRIAL.

To be SOLD at private Sale,

A Valuable PLANTATION, situate in Plymouth township, Philadelphia county, 15 miles from Philadelphia, between the Ridge and Germantown roads, on the road leading from Plymouth meeting to North-wales, containing 111 acres of excellent good land, 40 acres of woodland, well timbered, 10 acres of meadow, all watered with a constant stream, called Plymouth-creek; there is a large stone house, with a good cellar and kitchen, a stone spring-house, with a spring of excellent water, a good barn, part stone and part frame, under a cedar roof, and a large orchard of exceeding good fruit. Any person inclining to purchase, may know the terms by applying to JOHN ETRIS, junior, between Race and Vine-streets, in Fifth-street, Philadelphia. ¶

N B. Merchandize, such as rum, sugar, coffee, &c. will be taken as cash.

Five Hundred Dollars Reward.

STOLEN, in the night of the 14th of October inst. from the subscriber, living in Sadsbury township, Chester county, a black MARE, five years old, about 15 hands high, a natural pacer, low carriage, a small star in her forehead, part of each of her hind feet white, and shod all round. Whoever takes up and secures said mare and thief, shall have the above reward, or Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars for the mare only, and reasonable charges, paid by JOHN SHARP, or ANDREW BOYD. ¶

C. P. & N. RAGUET,

In Front-street, five Doors below Walnut-street, have for SALE,

WEST-INDIA RUM, in Hogsheads;
FRENCH BRANDY, in Tierces;
Brown & Muscovado SUGARS, in Hogsheads & Barrels;
COFFEE, in Bags and Barrels;
COCOA, in Barrels;
COTTON, in Bags;
GUN-POWDER, in Barrels of 100 lbs. each;
FLINTS, in Tierces;

And a large Assortment of DRY GOODS, viz. Cloths, Durants, Manchester Velvets, Druggets, Shaloons, Sewing Silk, Twist, Linens, Lawns, Cambricks, French and English Gauzes, Ribbons, Black and White Blonde Laces, Silk Stockings, Flowers, Feathers, Pins, &c. &c, &c. ¶

PHILADELPHIA: Printed by HALL and SELLERS, at the NEW-PRINTING-OFFICE, near the MARKET.